

Trans-European Roma Federation

20 December 2004-12-20

Dear Cliff, Janie & all the family!

HAPPY CHRISTAS!

Please find enclosed the **USTIBEN AWARD** for you and Janie in recognition of your long and dedicated work for the Romani Nation (unanimously presented on behalf of the TERF committee, Ladislav Balaz, Toma Nikolaeff, Veerendra Rishi, Roza Kotowicz, Nikolae Czergo, Hristo Danov and myself, to mark Human Rights Day 2004).

This is to let you know that we are ALL thinking of you right now and not just thinking – but getting ready to come up and be with you, if you need us, in the New Year!

Constant & Co got a surprise last Monday (13 Dec) when Hilary & Ray Roberts, Ellie and others turned up outside their offices to hold a Protest against the threatened eviction. (Here are some of the hundreds of flyers that were handed out).

To make sure we'll be well organised, an **Emergency Meeting** has been arranged for Sunday 2 January in London. But this will only take place if you call and say that they are going to try the eviction say on Tuesday, 4 January (or some day that week)

A second meeting has been arranged for 14 January (see Programme) to keep everyone on their toes.

Whenever you give us the word, the following support will be on its way :-

- 1) Marquee of the Gypsies For Jesus for Prayer Meeting
Being provided by Sonnie and Rosemary Gibbard
- 2) 2nd Marquee for shelter of supporters and preparation of food
- 3) Holocaust Memorial Exhibition

If you think it's a good idea, this Exhibition can be put upon a fence and (and possibly covered in with some scaffolding and lorry covers).

It will represent, and tie in with, your proposal for the ROMANY HERITAGE CENTRE.

- 4) Human Rights Monitoring Team
As well as Fil, who is coming now, Roseann McPhee is planning to come down from Scotland to represent the National Association of Gypsy Women on the Monitoring Team, which will also include Hazel (with video) and others.
- 5) BBC TV CREW
Neil Ansell (as you know) has got the go-head to make a Documentary that will show up Constant. If we can give him warning, his crew will be up to Woodside and "embedded" with you before they try the eviction.
- 6) More than 40 people (so far) have promised to come up, to take part in a peaceful prayer meeting at the gate.

Finally, no need to say that it's going to be freezing cold, so hopefully you'll have a good supply of wood in for brazier-fires to help keep people warm.

Would it be possible also to get some bales of straw?

Richard O'Neill has promised to supply the lorry covers.
I'm going to ask a friend in Colchester tomorrow about getting the scaffolding. Or is easy to hire around your way?

LOVE TO YOU ALL!